



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
PATENT TRANSMITTAL FORM

Applicants: Suzanne M. Pauley et al.  
Serial No.: 09/414,764  
Filed: October 7, 1999  
For: RAPID EXPANSION TAMPON PLEDGET  
Art Unit: 3735  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Atty. Docket No.: 460.1791USU

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

We are enclosing:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form 1449
3. Return postcard; and
4. Transmittal letter in duplicate;

Please charge any additional fees or credit any such fees, if necessary to **Deposit Account No. 01-0467** in the name of Ohlandt, Greeley, Ruggiero & Perle, L.L.P. A duplicate copy of this letter is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles N.J. Ruggiero, Esq.  
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& Perle, L.L.P.

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Date: January 7, 2000

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON JANUARY 7, 2000.

CHARLES N.J. RUGGIERO  
Registered Rep.

Signature

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*L. Pauley*  
*2-25-00*  
*#4/IDS*

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231**

Dear Sir:

In accordance with applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), we are enclosing form PTO-1449 listing information that may be material to the patentability of this application. We are also enclosing a copy of the following references that are listed on attached form PTO-1449.

U.S. Patent No. 2,884,925 to Maurice J. Meynier, Jr., which issued on May 5, 1959, titled "TAMPON AND DEPOSITOR".

U.S. Patent No. 3,431,909 to Evelyn H. Krusko, which issued on March 11, 1969, titled "UNCOMPRESSED TAMPON AND APPLICATOR".

U.S. Patent No. 3,674,025 to Keith T. Bleuer, which issued on July 4, 1972, titled "TAMPON ASSEMBLY".

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U.S. Patent No. 3,674,025 to Keith T. Bleuer, which issued on July 4, 1972, titled "TAMPON ASSEMBLY".

U.S. Patent No. 3,815,601 to Jean Edward Schaefer, which issued on June 11, 1974, titled "CATAMENIAL AGGREGATE ABSORBENT BODY".

U.S. Patent No. 3,834,389 to Bernard Allen Dulle, which issued on September 10, 1974, titled "TEXTILE TAMPON HAVING A RESILIENT FOAM CORE".

U.S. Patent No. 3,986,511 to Elisabet Olofsson, et al., which issued on October 19, 1976, titled "INTRAVAGINAL SANITARY DEVICE".

U.S. Patent No. 4,216,772 to Yoshimi Tsuchiya, et al., which issued on August 12, 1980, titled "ABSORBENT ARTICLE".

U.S. Patent No. 4,377,615 to Migaku Suzuki, et al., which issued on March 22, 1983, titled "NONWOVEN FABRICS AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE SAME".

U.S. Patent No. 5,231,122 to Gianfranco Palumbo, et al., which issued on July 27, 1993, titled "FIBROUS COMPOSITION FOR ABSORBENT PADS, A METHOD FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF AN ABSORBENT MATERIAL FROM SUCH A COMPOSITION, AND AN ABSORBENT MATERIAL PRODUCED BY THE METHOD".

U.S. Patent No. 5,364,383 to Harry Hayes, et al., which issued on November 15, 1994, titled "TAMPON".

U.S. Patent No. 5,795,346 to Amy Michele Achter, et al., which issued on August 18, 1998, titled "TAMPON HAVING A RESILIENT MEMBER".

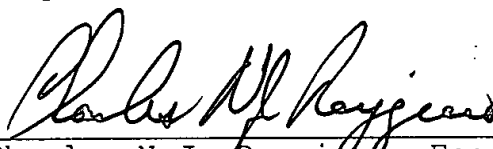
European Patent Application 0 062 948 to Dale Albert Gellert published on October 20, 1982, titled "ABSORBENT DEVICES".

It should be understood that attention has been called to these references that have been deemed to be pertinent to the claimed present invention. In concluding what was pertinent, the criteria employed was considered most appropriate in light of the invention shown in the present application. However, the Examiner or others may deem some other criteria to be just as appropriate or more appropriate. Therefore, the Examiner is respectfully urged to review the listed references and to make the usual careful independent search for other prior art that may be pertinent.

This Information Disclosure Statement is within three months of the filing date of this application, and, we believe, prior to the first Office Action.

Applicant respectfully request favorable consideration and  
that this application be passed to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles N.J. Ruggiero", is written over a horizontal line.

Charles N.J. Ruggiero, Esq.

Reg. No. 28,468

Attorney for Applicant

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January 7, 2000